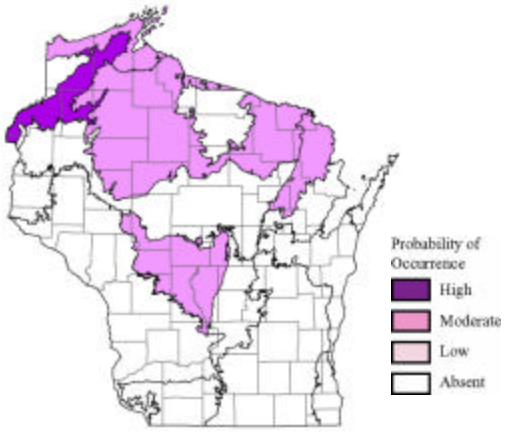
Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	4
State threats:	4
State population trend:	4
Global abundance:	3
Global distribution:	2
Global threats:	3
Global population trend:	3
Mean Risk Score:	3.3
Area of importance:	3

* Please see the Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries (Section 3.1.1) for definitions of criteria and scores.



Ecological Landscape Associations
Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape -community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Sand Plains	Northern sedge meadow
Central Sand Plains	Oak barrens
Central Sand Plains	Pine barrens
Central Sand Plains	Surrogate grasslands
North Central Forest	Northern sedge meadow
Northeast Sands	Bracken grassland
Northeast Sands	Pine barrens
Northwest Sands	Northern sedge meadow
Northwest Sands	Open bog
Northwest Sands	Pine barrens
Northwest Sands	Surrogate grasslands

Threats and Issues

- Need to restore large blocks of open barrens through harvest or fire.
- Housing development reduces opportunities for large-scale management through timber harvest and/or fire.
- Conversion of barrens/jack pine forest to red pine plantations is a significant long-term threat.
- Since we have low population sizes in Wisconsin, care should continue to be taken to ensure overharvest does not occur.
- It is not clear how invasives such as spotted knapweed will affect Sharp-Tailed Grouse.
- Remaining populations are somewhat isolated and genetic drift could become a serious issue.

Priority Conservation Actions

- Since this species requires large areas of grassland/barrens, the best management and preservation opportunities are on public land.

- Continue to build barrens partnerships in appropriate landscapes.
- Create habitat corridors and consider translocations to restore genetic variability within isolated populations.
- Create financial incentives to incorporate large aggregated clearcuts in and around managed core areas. This will require sound long-term planning. This strategy could be used in conjuction with management for Kirtland's Warbler and Connecticut Warbler, as well as the other barrens species.